

Upper Salinas – Las Tablas Resource Conservation District

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 27, 2022

Zoom

I. Call to Order

Chair Susan Cochrane called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm and determined a quorum was present. Directors attending: Melissa Egger, Margy Lindquist, Mike Broadhurst, Randy Heinzen, Susan Cochrane, George Kendall. Staff present: Devin Best, Tyler Lu and Dana Price.

II. Additions/Changes to Agenda. None.

III. Public Comment. None.

IV. RCD Reports.

- a. Board Updates. Mike Broadhurst requested that voluminous attachments in meeting packets be forwarded sooner. Susan Cochrane reported on attending the sustainable agriculture workshop.
- b. Executive Director's report. Devin Best reviewed the executive director's report included in the meeting packet. Highlights include arrangements with consulting firm Kellen and Engineering Consultant GSI to work on the Gerhardt project repair in the summer of 2022. RCD will be a subcontractor under Kellen to do instream work. Funding is mostly from the county. A Sustainable Farming Initiative workshop was held January 20. RCD's intent is to work with CBrain to develop a scope of work plan/template for a central coast pilot project. Conservation Tech Haley Barnes resigned January 7 and will work for Coastal San Luis RCD.
- c. Hanson Quarry Mitigation Project. D. Best summarized the status of wetland/riparian work at the 2 acre Hanson site. The RCD has a contract that stipulates a plant survival rate that does not now appear attainable based on the condition of the planting inherited from the previous subcontractor. Board members recommended that the RCD seek to amend the contract for additional funding in order to meet our obligations.

V. Consent Agenda.

D. Best summarized the September through December Treasurer's reports. For several reasons expenditures have been somewhat greater than income over this period. M. Broadhurst asked that a 4th quarter 2021 budget review be made at the March board meeting. M. Broadhurst moved approval of the August – December Treasurer's reports and the August and September meeting minutes. M. Lindquist seconded. Unanimous approval.

VI. Other Agency Reports.

There was no NRCS report but D. Best briefly summarized the EQIP (still taking applications) and CSP (April 1 application deadline) programs.

VI. Board Action Items.

- a. Resolution to hold meetings remotely. There was brief discussion of a state requirement for special districts to approve a resolution enabling them to continue to hold remote meetings. G. Kendall moved to approve the resolution. There were several seconds. Unanimous approval.
- b. RCD Policy Packet. D. Best discussed the effort to update a suite of RCD policies. M. Lindquist and D. Best have updated governance policies and M. Bianchi and E. White have focused on financial policies. After discussion there was general agreement to have an annual policy review and update with a summary presentation to the board. A summary presentation of the new policy updates/changes will be made at the February meeting.

VII. Agenda Setting.

Fourth quarter 2021 budget review. Covell Ranch status review. Policy Packet review and approval. Possible rental office update.

IX Closed Session. Board and D. Best entered closed session at 4:51 pm. Closed session ended at 5:52 pm.

- a. Item IXa. There was a presentation and discussion about property. The board gave permission to proceed with further discussions with the land owner.
- b. Item IXb. The board received a presentation and discussed a recent personnel issue.

X. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm. Next meeting will be February 24.